

Division of Social Services



Provision of Financial Assistance to Support Low-Income Individuals and Families

ISSUE STATEMENT:

The Division of Social Services (DSS) administers a broad range of programs for Delaware's low-income families and individuals. These programs are regulated and funded by both the state and the federal governments and are provided to over 60,000 Delawareans each month. The major program areas are Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF), General Assistance, Food Stamps, and Subsidized Child Day Care. In addition, DSS staff determines eligibility for poverty-related Medical Assistance programs (Medicaid, Delaware Healthy Children Program, Non-Citizen Health Care Program).

The Division achieves its goals by increasing client self-sufficiency and independence through appropriate support systems that make work more financially attractive. These support systems include: subsidized child care, Food Stamps, TANF employment services (provided by Department of Labor contractors), TANF work transportation assistance and medical assistance.

GOALS:

- Increase the earnings of TANF recipients
- Reach the federal TANF work participation rate
- Achieve a Food Stamp error rate that is under the National error rate
- Increase Reimbursement Rates to Child Care Providers

KEY OBJECTIVES:

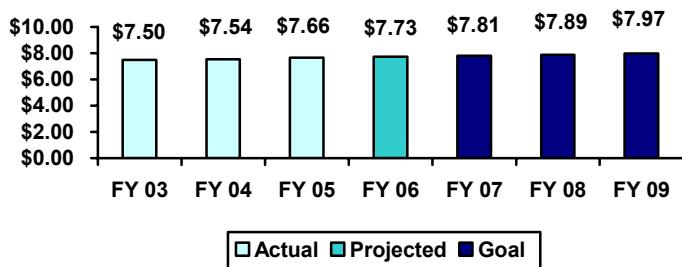
- To increase TANF recipients' earnings by 1% annually
- To increase TANF work participation rate by 25% annually
- To reduce Food Stamp error rate by 2% annually
- To increase Child Care reimbursement rates to 75% of the Local Market Rate in all categories

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES / ACTIVITIES:

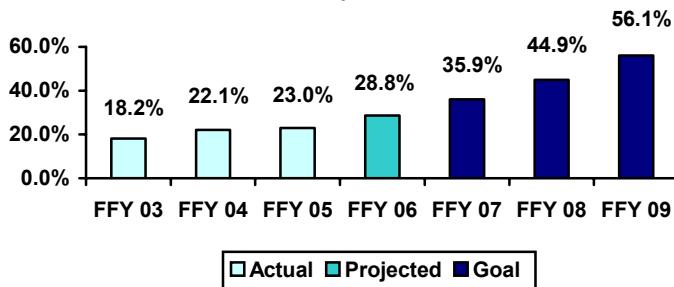
- Provide support services for working poor families such as child care subsidies and medical assistance
- Continue to refine TANF policy, data collection methods and DOL employment connections/retention contracts to achieve outcomes for work and increased earnings
- Continue to utilize Seasonal Food Stamp Case Readers, Round Table meetings and other strategies to increase Food Stamp payment accuracy

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: Average Hourly Wage for Job Placements

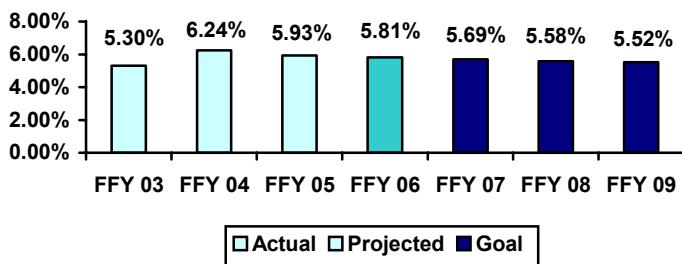


**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families:
Work Participation Rate***

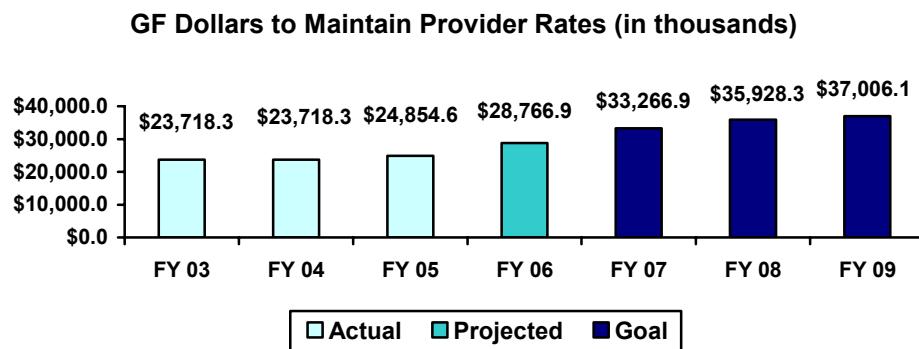
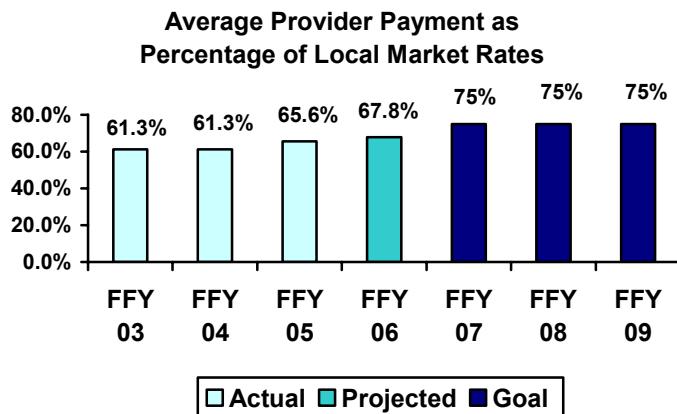


* The FFY 05 Work Participation Rate is estimated.

Delaware's Food Stamp Error Rate*



* The FFY 05 Error Rate is estimated.



MONITORING / EVALUATION PLANS:

- Monthly review of performance measure statistics
- Continue quarterly “Results and Learning” meetings with TANF Employment & Training contractors that focus on performance improvements and best practices
- Monthly review of Quality Control data reports

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